

Hsu et al.
Serial No.: 09/421,108

respective commitment for a monetary contribution of any giver-desired amount toward a gift for a gift recipient, the method comprising:

receiving at a centralized gift registry computer system gift ideas supplied by the gift recipient;

storing the gift ideas in a memory which is part of, or accessible to, said gift registry computer system;

providing to the gift givers, based on the stored gift ideas and in response to requests supplied to said gift registry computer, an on-line display of the gift ideas;

receiving at said gift registry computer system commitments from the gift givers for monetary contributions toward the purchase of a gift selected from the on-line display of gift ideas;

combining the commitments for monetary contributions and updating the display of the gift ideas to reflect the current commitments toward the selected gift;

automatically generating a purchase request for the selected gift if the total of the commitments is equal to or greater than a purchase price of the gift; and

attempting to satisfy the purchase request,

wherein the commitment of each giver that commits to make a monetary contribution is for any giver-desired portion of the uncommitted balance of the gift's purchase price.

208. (Amended) A centralized gift registry computer system programmed to perform a method for enabling a plurality of gift givers to each make a respective

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commitment for a monetary contribution of any giver-desired amount toward a gift for a gift recipient, the method comprising:

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storing the gift ideas in a memory which is part of, or accessible to, said gift registry computer system;

providing to the gift givers, based on the stored gift ideas and in response to requests supplied to said gift registry computer, an on-line display of the gift ideas;

receiving at said gift registry computer system commitments from the gift givers for monetary contributions toward the purchase of a gift selected from the on-line display of gift ideas;

combining the commitments for monetary contributions and updating the display of the gift ideas to reflect the current commitments toward the selected gift;

automatically generating a purchase request for the selected gift if the total of the commitments is equal to or greater than a purchase price of the gift; and

attempting to satisfy the purchase request,

wherein the commitment of each giver that commits to make a monetary contribution is for any giver-desired portion of the uncommitted balance of the gift's purchase price.